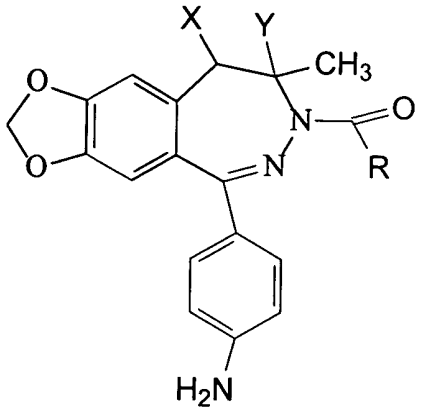
LIST OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A 1,3-dioxolo-[4,5-h][2,3]benzodiazepine compound of the formula I



(I)

wherein

X and Y each stand for hydrogen or together form a double bond;

R is a group of the formula $-(CH_2)_n-R^1$, wherein

n is 0, 1 or 2 and

R^1 is halogen or a group of the formula NR^2R^3, wherein R^2 represents hydrogen, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl or C_{1-4} alkyl optionally substituted with a 5 to 6 membered saturated heterocyclic ring, which contains one nitrogen, or one nitrogen and one oxygen atom and R^3 ~~independently represent hydrogen,~~ represents C_{3-6} cycloalkyl or C_{1-4} alkyl optionally substituted with a 5 to 6 membered

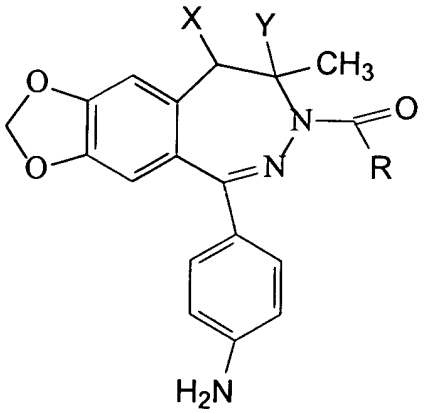
saturated heterocyclic ring, which contains one nitrogen, or one nitrogen and one oxygen atom ~~and may optionally have an oxo group substituent~~;

with the proviso that if X and Y together form a double bond, then n is 1 or 2; or n is 0 and ~~one of~~ R^2 is hydrogen and R^3 is ~~hydrogen and the other is~~ C_{1-4} alkyl optionally substituted with a 5 to 6 membered saturated heterocyclic ring, which contains one nitrogen, or one nitrogen and one oxygen atom ~~and may optionally have an oxo group substituent~~;

and pharmaceutically suitable acid addition salts thereof.

2. - 8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of the formula I



(I)

wherein

X and Y each stand for hydrogen or together form a double bond;

R is a group of the formula $-(CH_2)_n-R^1$, wherein

n is 0, 1 or 2 and

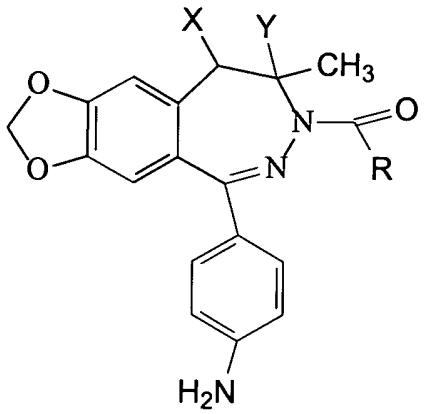
R^1 is halogen or a group of the formula NR^2R^3, wherein R^2 represents hydrogen, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl or C_{1-4} alkyl optionally substituted with a 5 to 6 membered saturated heterocyclic ring, which contains one nitrogen, or one nitrogen and one oxygen atom and R^3 ~~independently represent hydrogen,~~ represents C_{3-6} cycloalkyl or C_{1-4} alkyl optionally substituted with a 5 to 6 membered saturated heterocyclic ring, which contains one nitrogen, or one nitrogen and one oxygen atom ~~and may optionally have an oxo group substituent~~;

with the proviso that if X and Y together form a double bond, then n is 1 or 2; or n is 0 and ~~one of~~ R^2 is hydrogen and R^3 is ~~hydrogen and the other is~~ C_{1-4} alkyl optionally substituted with a 5 to 6 membered saturated heterocyclic ring, which contains one nitrogen, or one nitrogen and one oxygen atom ~~and may optionally have an oxo group substituent~~,

or a pharmaceutically suitable acid addition salt thereof as the active ingredient and one or more conventional carrier(s).

10. - 15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) A method of treatment in which a patient suffering from epilepsy or being in a state after stroke is treated with a non-toxic dose of the compound of formula I,



(I)

wherein

X and Y each stand for hydrogen or together form a double bond;

R is a group of the formula $-(CH_2)_n-R^1$, wherein

n is 0, 1 or 2 and

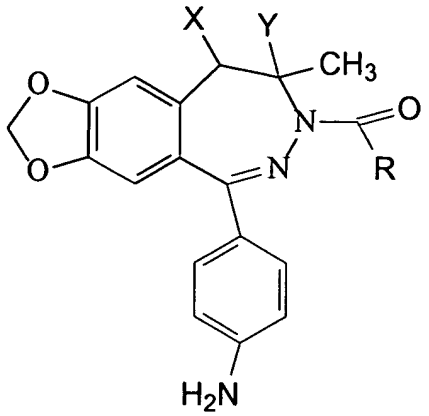
R^1 is halogen or a group of the formula NR^2R^3, wherein R^2 represents hydrogen, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl or C_{1-4} alkyl optionally substituted with a 5 to 6 membered

saturated heterocyclic ring, which contains one nitrogen, or one nitrogen and one oxygen atom and R^3 ~~independently represent hydrogen,~~ represents C_{3-6} cycloalkyl or C_{1-4} alkyl optionally substituted with a 5 to 6 membered saturated heterocyclic ring, which contains one nitrogen, or one nitrogen and one oxygen atom ~~and may optionally have an oxo group substituent~~;

with the proviso that if X and Y together form a double bond, then n is 1 or 2; or n is 0 and one of R^2 and R^3 is hydrogen and the other is C_{1-4} alkyl optionally substituted with a 5 to 6 membered saturated heterocyclic ring, which contains one nitrogen, or one nitrogen and one oxygen atom ~~and may optionally have an oxo group substituent~~;

or a pharmaceutically suitable acid addition salt thereof.

17. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing a pharmaceutical composition suitable for the treatment of epilepsy or a state after stroke, characterized in that a compound of the formula I,



(I)

wherein

X and Y each stand for hydrogen or together form a double bond;

R is a group of the formula $-(CH_2)_n-R^1$, wherein

n is 0, 1 or 2 and

R^1 is halogen or a group of the formula NR^2R^3, wherein R^2 represents hydrogen, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl or C_{1-4} alkyl optionally substituted with a 5 to 6 membered saturated heterocyclic ring, which contains one nitrogen, or one nitrogen and one oxygen atom and R^3 ~~independently represent hydrogen,~~ represents C_{3-6} cycloalkyl or C_{1-4} alkyl optionally substituted with a 5 to 6 membered saturated heterocyclic ring, which contains one nitrogen, or one nitrogen and one oxygen atom ~~and may optionally have an oxo group substituent~~;

with the proviso that if X and Y together form a double bond, then n is 1 or 2; or n is 0 and one of R^2 is

hydrogen and R^3 is ~~hydrogen and the other is~~ C_{1-4} alkyl optionally substituted with a 5 to 6 membered saturated heterocyclic ring, which contains one nitrogen, or one nitrogen and one oxygen atom ~~and may optionally have an oxo group substituent~~;

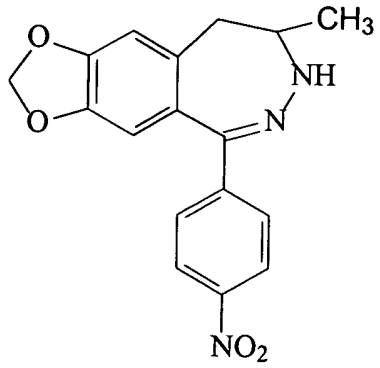
or a pharmaceutically suitable acid addition salt thereof, together with one or more conventional carrier(s), is converted to a pharmaceutical composition.

18. (Currently Amended) A compound which is selected from the group consisting of (±)-5-(4-aminophenyl)-7,8-dihydro-8-methyl-7-[N-(4-morpholinoethyl)carbamoyl]-9H-1,3-dioxolo[4,5-h][2,3]-benzodiazepine; (±)-5-(4-aminophenyl)-7-(N-cyclopropylcarbamoyl)-7,8-dihydro-8-methyl-9H-1,3-dioxolo[4,5-h][2,3]benzodiazepine; (±)-5-(4-aminophenyl)-7,8-dihydro-8-methyl-7-(N-methoxycarbamoyl)-9H-1,3-dioxolo-[4,5-h][2,3]benzodiazepine; (±)-5-(4-aminophenyl)-7-(N-aminocarbamoyl)-7,8-dihydro-8-methyl-9H-1,3-dioxolo[4,5-h]-[2,3]benzodiazepine; 5-(4-aminophenyl)-8-methyl-7H-1,3-dioxolo-[4,5-h][2,3]benzodiazepine-7-carboxylic acid-(2-morpholino-4-ylethyl)amide; 5-(4-aminophenyl)-7-(2-chloroacetyl)-8-methyl-7H-1,3-dioxolo[4,5-h][2,3]benzodiazepine; 5-(4-aminophenyl)-7-(3-

chloropropionyl)-8-methyl-7H-1,3-dioxolo~~/~~[4,5-h]~~//~~[2,3]~~/~~benzodiazepine~~;~~ and 1-[2-[~~/~~5-(4-aminophenyl)-8-methyl-7H-1,3-dioxolo~~/~~[4,5-h]~~//~~[2,3]~~/~~benzodiazepine-7-yl]~~/~~-2-oxoethyl] pyrrolidine-2-one monohydrate.

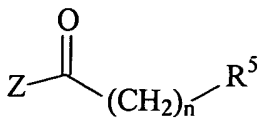
19. (Presently Amended) A process for the preparation of a 1,3-dioxolo-[4,5-h][2,3]benzodiazepine compound of formula I in claim 1, wherein X, Y, and R are as defined in Claim 1, and pharmaceutically suitable acid addition salts thereof, wherein

~~a.~~ (a) for the preparation of a compound of the formula I in claim 1, where R represents a group of the formula $-(CH_2)_n-R^1$, wherein R^1 is a halo atom, n has a value of 0, 1 or 2, X and Y represent a hydrogen atom, the 7,8-dihydro-8-methyl-5-(4-nitrophenyl)-9H-1,3-dioxolo[4,5-h][2,3]benzodiazepine of Formula III



(III)

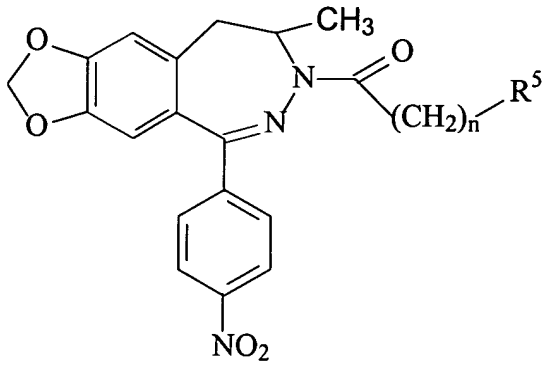
is reacted with a reagent of the Formula VI



(VI)

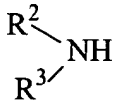
wherein Z represents a leaving group, R^5 is a halo atom and n is 0, 1 or 2; or

~~b.~~ (b) for the preparation of a compound of the formula I in claim 1, wherein R represents a group of the formula $-(CH_2)_n-R^1$, wherein R^1 represents a group of Formula NR^2R^3, wherein R^2~~, R^3 and n~~ and R^3 are as defined in Claim 1, n is 0, 1 or 2, X and Y represent hydrogen atoms, the 7,8-dihydro-8-methyl-5-(4-nitrophenyl)-9H-1,3-dioxolo[4,5-h][2,3]benzodiazepine of Formula III is reacted with a reagent of formula VI, wherein Z ~~and R^5~~ in formula VI ~~represent, independently,~~ represents a leaving group, R^5 in formula VI is a halo atom, n is 0, 1 or 2, and the obtained benzodiazepine compound of the formula IV



(IV)

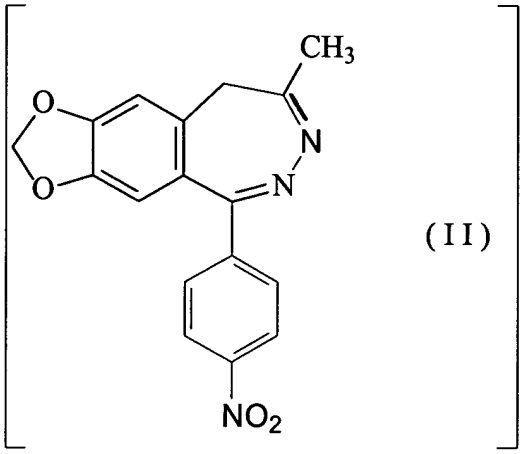
wherein R^5 in formula IV stands for a ~~leaving group~~ halo atom and n is 0, 1 or 2, is reacted with an amine of the formula VII



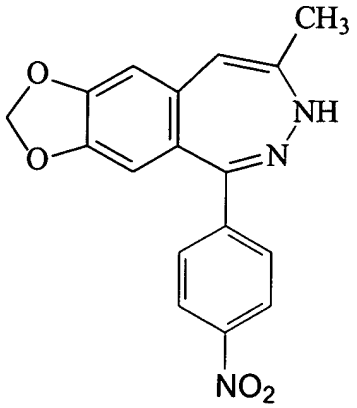
(VII)

wherein R^2 and R^3 are as ~~stated above~~ defined in claim 1; or

~~c.~~ (c) for the preparation of a compound of the formula I in claim 1, wherein R stands for a group of the formula $-(CH_2)_n-R^1$, wherein R^1 represents a halogen atom, n has a value of 1 or 2, Y together with X forms a valence bond, the 8-methyl-5-(4-nitrophenyl)-9H-1,3-dioxolo[4,5-h][2,3]benzodiazepine of the formula II

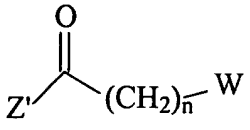


(II)



(II)

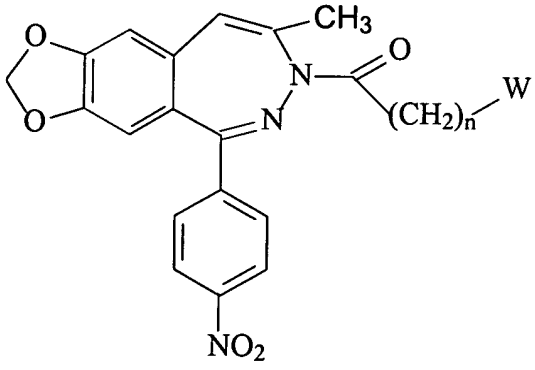
is reacted with an acylating agent of the formula IX



(IX)

wherein Z' represents a leaving group, W stands for a halogen atom and n has a value of 1 or 2; or

~~d.~~ (d) for the preparation of a compound of formula I in claim 1, wherein R represents a group of the formula $-(CH_2)_n-R^1$, wherein R^1 stands for a group of the formula $-NR^2R^3$, wherein R^2~~, R^3 and n~~ and R^3 are as defined in Claim 1, n is 0, 1 or 2, Y together with X forms a valence bond, the 8-methyl-5-(4-nitrophenyl)-9H-1,3-dioxolo[4,5-h][2,3]benzodiazepine of the formula II is reacted with an acylating agent of the formula IX, wherein ~~each of~~ Z' ~~and W~~ represents~~, independently,~~ a leaving group, W is a halogen atom, n is ~~as stated above~~ 0, 1 or 2, and the obtained acylated compound of the formula VIII



(VIII)

wherein W represents a halogen atom and n is 0, 1 or 2 ~~are as defined above~~, is reacted with an amine of the formula HNR^2R^3, wherein R^2 and R^3 are as defined in claim 1 ~~as stated above~~;

and the 5-(4-nitrophenyl) substituted benzodiazepine compound resulting from the processes of a-e~~, wherein R^1, X and Y and n are as defined in Claim 1,~~ is transformed into a compound of the formula I by reduction;

and, optionally, a base of the compound corresponding to formula I in claim 1 is converted into a pharmaceutically suitable acid addition salt or liberated from its acid addition salt.